

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel originally-filed claims 1-6, without prejudice. In addition, please add new claims 7-12, as provided below. The listing of these claims are as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

7. (New) A galvanized steel sheet with a particular post-painting corrosion resistance and a particular paint coat image clarity, comprising:

at least one steel sheet portion which has a center line average roughness (R_a) that is at most $1.0\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ and a filtered waviness curve (W_{CA}) that is at most $0.8\text{ }\mu\text{m}$; and

a galvanized layer provided on a surface of the at least one steel sheet portion, the galvanized layer containing, in mass, 1-10% of Mg, 2-19% of Al and 0.001-2% of Si, with a balance consisting of Zn and unavoidable impurities.

8. (New) The galvanized steel sheet according to claim 7, further comprising at least one element which includes, in mass, at least one of 0.01-0.5% of C, 0.01-0.2% of Be, 0.0001-0.2% of Ti, 0.1-10% of Cu, 0.001-0.2% of Ni, 0.01-0.3% of Co, 0.0001-0.2% of Cr and 0.01-0.5% of Mn.

9. (New) The galvanized steel sheet according to claim 7, wherein the galvanized layer includes a metallographic structure which has an Mg_2Si phase, a Zn_2Mg phase and a Zn phase that coexist in a substrate of an Al/Zn/ Zn_2Mg ternary eutectic structure.

10. (New) The galvanized steel sheet according to claim 7, wherein the galvanized layer includes a metallographic structure which has an Mg_2Si phase, a Zn_2Mg phase and an Al phase that coexist in a substrate of an Al/Zn/ Zn_2Mg ternary eutectic structure.

11. (New) The galvanized steel sheet according to claim 7, wherein the galvanized layer includes a metallographic structure which has an Mg_2Si phase, a Zn_2Mg phase, a Zn phase and an Al phase that coexist in a substrate of an Al/Zn/ Zn_2Mg ternary eutectic structure.

12. (New) The galvanized steel sheet according to claim 7, wherein the galvanized layer includes a metallographic structure which has an Mg_2Si phase, a Zn phase and an Al phase that coexist in a substrate of an Al/Zn/ Zn_2Mg ternary eutectic structure.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends the originally-filed specification of the above-referenced U.S. application, via a substitute specification, to refer to and claim priority from the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/JP03/00071 filed on January 8, 2003, and from Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2002-002486 and 2002-170509, filed January 9, 2002 and June 11, 2002, respectively, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2). In addition, the specification has been amended to remove minor informalities from the translation of the originally-filed international application. A marked-up comparison

illustrating changes between the originally-filed specification and the substitute specification is enclosed herewith.

In addition, originally-filed claims 1-6 of the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/JP03/00071 have been cancelled without prejudice, and new claims 7-12 have been added to provide the originally filed claims 1-6 in an appropriate form for prosecution before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and not due to any reason of patentability. Accordingly, claims 7-12 are now under consideration in the above-identified application. The amendments to the specification and new claims do not add new matter to the application.

The underlying PCT Application No. PCT/JP03/00071 includes an International Search Report, dated February 25, 2003, a copy of which is included. The Search Report includes a list of document(s) that have been considered by the Examiner in the underlying PCT application.


Enclosed herewith, please also find a copy of the PCT Preliminary Examination Report for the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/JP03/00071 dated March 29, 2004. Applicants note that the PCT Preliminary Examination Report confirms that the originally-filed claims 1-6 of the underlying International Application conform with the requirements set forth in PCT Article 33(2)-(4).

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious, and useful.

Prompt consideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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